



# NEWS



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## Help catch an arsonist

Hi Desert Star

Posted: May 26, 2017 9:47 AM



Kurt Schauppner The Desert Trail

A neighbor said homeless people often use this building to do drugs.

**TWENTYNINE PALMS** — County arson investigators are asking for the help finding the person responsible for a fire that heavily damaged an abandoned building in downtown Twentynine Palms.

The fire struck the abandoned home in the 6400 block of Yucca Avenue at about 8:24 p.m. Wednesday, May 24.

Prior to deputies' arrival, the structure became fully engulfed and witnesses reported hearing explosions.

One neighbor said he saw a woman running out of the building just after the fire began.

**San Bernardino County Fire Department** extinguished the fire before it could spread to any nearby buildings.

Through investigation, deputies learned a Hispanic female was seen entering the building five minutes prior to the fire starting.

Due to the circumstances surrounding the fire, an Arson Investigator with the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Anyone with information related to the investigation is asked to contact the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Morongo Basin Station at (760) 366-4175. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may contact We-Tip at 1-888-78-CRIME.

[http://www.hidesertstar.com/the\\_desert\\_trail/news/article\\_0e9d02b2-4233-11e7-9b81-67d7b8f6eb9a.html](http://www.hidesertstar.com/the_desert_trail/news/article_0e9d02b2-4233-11e7-9b81-67d7b8f6eb9a.html)

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## Woman wanted in connection to Twentynine Palms fire in abandoned building

Alex Groves, The Press-Enterprise

Posted: May 26, 2017, 10:25 AM

Deputies are looking for a woman who entered an abandoned building minutes before it caught fire Wednesday in Twentynine Palms, sheriff's officials said.

The fire happened shortly before 8:30 p.m. in the 6400 block of Yucca Avenue, according to a San Bernardino County sheriff's news release.

The building became fully engulfed and witnesses reported hearing explosions inside, according to the release.

Firefighters extinguished the blaze before it spread to other buildings.

No civilians or firefighters were injured, **San Bernardino County fire** officials tweeted.

Due to the circumstances surrounding the blaze, an arson investigator was sent to the scene.

Deputies learned from witnesses that the woman had walked into the abandoned building about five minutes before the fire started, officials said.

Sheriff's officials are asking anyone with information about the investigation to contact the Morongo Basin station at 760-366-4175. Anonymous tips also can be made by calling WeTip at 1-888-782-7463.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20170526/woman-wanted-in-connection-to-twentynine-palms-fire-in-abandoned-building>

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## Fire investigated as arson in Twentynine Palms

Alexandra Pierce, KESQ News

Posted: May 27, 2017, 6:33 AM

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** is investigating a fire in an abandoned building in Twentynine Palms as a possible act of arson.

Witnesses reported hearing explosions around 8:30 a.m. Friday on Yucca Avenue. Firefighters were able to extinguish the fire before it spread to any nearby buildings.

Investigators say a woman was seen entering the building five minutes before the fire started.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

<http://www.kesq.com/news/fire-investigated-as-arson-in-twentynine-palms/519835229>

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## Suspicious fire on Yucca Ave, Twentynine Palms

Desert Independent

Posted: May 27, 2017

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif – On May 24 at about 8:24 p.m., deputies from the San Bernardino County Sheriff - Morongo Basin Station responded to a report of a structure fire at an abandoned building in the 6400 Block of Yucca Avenue in Twentynine Palms. Prior to deputies' arrival, the structure became fully engulfed and witnesses reported hearing explosions.

**San Bernardino County Fire Department** extinguished the fire before it could spread to any nearby buildings. Through investigation, deputies learned a Hispanic female was seen entering the building five minutes prior to the fire starting. Due to the circumstances surrounding the fire, an Arson Investigator with the San Bernardino County Fire Department responded. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Anyone with information related to the investigation is asked to contact the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Morongo Basin Station at (760)366-4175. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may contact We-Tip at 1-888-78-CRIME.

<http://www.thedesertinde.com/Articles-2017/Suspicious-fire-on-Yucca-Ave-Twentynine-Palms--0527.html>

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## Deputies Ask for Public's Help In Twentynine Palms Fire

Z107.7 News

Posted: May 27, 2017

Deputies are asking for the public's help concerning a structure fire in Twentynine Palms that is being investigated by the **County Fire Department's** arson investigators. On Wednesday, May 24, the Sheriff's Department received numerous phone calls shortly after 8:24 p.m. about a fire in the 6400 block of Yucca Avenue. Witnesses saw an Hispanic woman entering and leaving the building before the fire started, and heard explosions coming from the house. The home was fully involved in flames before firefighters arrived. Anyone with information should call the Sheriff's Department at 760-366-4175.

<http://z1077fm.com/deputies-ask-for-publics-help-in-twentynine-palms-fire/>

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## **Fire Marshal suspends all burn permits, open fires throughout San Bernardino County**

*The suspension came as a result of “anticipated short-term high winds, as well as high temperatures and low humidity,” and will remain in effect until lifted, authorities said.*

**Daily Press**

Posted: May 26, 2017, 3:58 PM



Due to weather conditions, all burn permits and open fires throughout the county are currently suspended until further notice, authorities said.

**San Bernardino County Fire** Marshal Mike Horton suspended all burn permits and open fires in several regions of the county, effective from 6 a.m. Friday. The suspension came as a result of “anticipated short-term high winds, as well as high temperatures and low humidity.”

Burn permits and open fires in all unincorporated High Desert and North Desert areas, including Hesperia, Victorville, and Adelanto, are currently suspended. The suspension will remain in effect until lifted, authorities said.

Covered barbecues and recreational fires fueled solely by natural gas or propane are exempt from this suspension. Authorities said cooking fires of any type are permissible under permit only when no alternate means of cooking are available.

Open fires conducted in the course of filming, public fireworks displays or ceremonial events are exempt if properly permitted and conducted by a licensed professional, or other responsible person when the attending fire department Fire Safety Officer determines that local climatic conditions are safe, authorities said.

Unlawful fires may result in administrative or legal action against the person kindling the fire and/or owner of the property on which the fire occurs.

Visit [www.sbcfire.org](http://www.sbcfire.org) for more information.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170526/fire-marshal-suspends-all-burn-permits-open-fires-throughout-san-bernardino-county>

## All Burn Permits and Open Fires Suspended in San Bernardino County

VVNG Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 26, 2017



(Photo courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire)

Due to the anticipated short-term high winds as well as high temperatures and low humidity, San Bernardino County Fire Marshal Mike Horton has suspended all burn permits and open fires in the following geographic areas:

- Division 1 – All unincorporated West Valley Areas, including the cities of Fontana and Grand Terrace.
- Division 2 – All unincorporated High Desert areas, including the city of Hesperia.
- Division 3 – All unincorporated North Desert areas, including the cities of Victorville and Adelanto.
- Division 4 – All unincorporated Mountain areas, except for within the Running Springs Fire District and the Big Bear Fire Authority boundaries.
- Division 5 – All unincorporated South Desert areas, including the town of Yucca Valley and the city of Twentynine Palms.
- Division 6 – All unincorporated East Valley areas, including the city of San Bernardino.
- River Battalion – All unincorporated River areas including the Parker Dam area, Big River, and the city of Needles are NOT restricted unless necessary based upon local weather observations by the Battalion Chief assigned to this Battalion.

**THIS SUSPENSION SHALL TAKE EFFECT 0600 HOURS ON MAY 26, 2017 AND SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL LIFTED**

Covered barbecues and recreational fires fueled solely by natural gas or propane are exempt from this suspension. Cooking fires of any type are permissible under permit only when NO alternate means of cooking are available.

Open fires conducted in the course of filming, public fireworks displays, or ceremonial events are exempt if properly permitted and conducted by a licensed professional, or other responsible person when the attending fire department Fire Safety Officer determines that local climactic conditions are safe.

Residential burning of trash, yard clipping and tree trimmings are ALWAYS prohibited in the Mountain and Valley areas, regardless of conditions.

Unlawful fires may result in administrative or legal action against the person kindling the fire and/or owner of the property on which the fire occurs. Full copy of the proclamation can be found on [sbcfire.org](http://sbcfire.org).

<http://www.vvng.com/burn-permits-open-fires-suspended-san-bernardino-county/>

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## **BLM Declares Elevated Fire Risk**

Z107.7 News

Posted: May 27, 2017

The California Desert District of the Bureau of Land Management has declared a level of Stage 3 fire restrictions for the area ranging from Ridgecrest, CA to the border of Mexico. Fine fuels, which are at the driest level in recorded history, combined with hot, windy conditions, have created an elevated risk of fire throughout Southern California. In Joshua Tree National Park, fires are still permitted in park campgrounds and picnic areas, but visitors are reminded to use extreme caution with campfires and open flames. All campfires should be extinguished with water and using the “drown, stir, feel” method to insure the fire is out. Both campfires and open flame grills should always be attended. Back country campers are permitted to use camp stoves only.

In addition, the **San Bernardino County Fire** Marshal has suspended all burn permits for Yucca Valley, Twentynine Palms, and all unincorporated areas of the county due to high winds, high temperatures, and low humidity. Covered barbecues and recreational fires fueled solely by natural gas or propane are exempt from the suspension. Cooking fires are permitted with a permit only when no other means of cooking are available. Trash burning is prohibited. Unlawful fires may result in legal action. The suspension is in effect immediately and until the fire marshal lifts it. More information is available at [sbcfire.org](http://sbcfire.org).

<http://z1077fm.com/blm-declares-elevated-fire-risk/>

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## All Burn Permits and Open Fire Suspended In San Bernardino County

Z107.7 News

Posted: May 30, 2017

Due to short-term high winds, high temperatures and low humidity, **San Bernardino County Fire** Marshal Mike Horton has suspended all burn permits and open fires in all unincorporated South Desert areas, including the town of Yucca Valley and the city of Twentynine Palms. **THIS SUSPENSION SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL LIFTED.** Covered barbecues and recreational fires fueled solely by natural gas or propane are exempt from this suspension. Cooking fires of any type are permissible under permit only when NO alternate means of cooking are available. Residential burning of trash, yard clipping and tree trimmings are **ALWAYS** prohibited, regardless of conditions. Unlawful fires may result in administrative or legal action against the person kindling the fire and/or owner of the property on which the fire occurs. A full copy of the proclamation can be found at [sbcfire.org](http://sbcfire.org).

<http://z1077fm.com/all-burn-permits-and-open-fire-suspended-in-san-bernardino-county/>

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## Head-on Crash Temporarily Closes Highway 395; One person Airlifted

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 28, 2017



(Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) One person required extrication and another person was airlifted with serious injuries following a head-on traffic collision.

The accident was reported around 9:15 p.m. on Sunday, May 28, 2017, involving two SUVs.

When Firefighters from the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded they located two SUVs with major damage, according to Battalion Chief Kelly Anderson.

For unknown reasons, both vehicles a 2006 Nissan Armada and a Honda CRV collided head-on near Smoketree Road on Highway 395.

A female occupant of one SUV required minor extrication, which took about 10 minutes Anderson said.

The occupant of the second SUV was airlifted to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center with major injuries. Highway 395 was temporarily closed while a helicopter landed just east of the crash.

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department is handling the investigation.

<http://www.vvng.com/head-crash-temporarily-closes-highway-395-one-person-airlifted/>

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## **One person airlifted after head-on collision on Highway 395 Sunday night**

**Daily Press**

Posted: May 29, 2017, 2:39 PM

HESPERIA — One person was airlifted to a local trauma center with major injuries suffered in a head-on collision on Highway 395 late Sunday night.

**San Bernardino County Fire Department** personnel responded to the collision near Smoketree Road at approximately 9:13 p.m.

Firefighters found SUV-type vehicles had collided head-on and requested a helicopter, according to County Fire spokesman Ryan Vaccaro said.

Firefighters received initial reports of a trapped party, but they were able to bend the driver's side door on one of the vehicles to remove a person stuck in one of the SUVs.

Mercy Air 22 responded and transported one person to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center with "critical injuries," Vaccaro said.

A stretch of Highway 395 was shut down for several hours as San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department deputies investigated the collision. A message left with the Hesperia's Sheriff's Station Watch Commander was not immediately returned Monday afternoon.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170529/one-person-airlifted-after-head-on-collision-on-highway-395-sunday-night>

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## **Three adults burned in San Bernardino fire**

**Stephen Wall, Press Enterprise**

Posted: May 29, 2017, 9:27 AM

Three adults suffered burn injuries in a San Bernardino house fire Monday, May 29, officials said. The fire at the two-story home started about 8 a.m. in the 700 block of Lassen Avenue on the city's west end, said Dan Wooters, a battalion chief with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

Wooters said the three victims — two women and one man — were burned over "a large portion of their bodies" and transported to an area hospital. He said he didn't believe the injuries were life threatening.

Wooters said two victims were a father and daughter but didn't know who the third person was or any of the victims' ages. No one else was in the home at the time, he said.

The home had “significant heat and smoke damage” totaling about \$150,000, he said.

The Rialto and Colton fire departments helped county firefighters to put out the blaze in about 30 minutes, he said.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

<http://www.pe.com/2017/05/29/three-adults-burned-in-san-bernardino-fire/>

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## Three People Sustain Significant Burn Injuries in San Bernardino House Fire

24/7 Headline News

Posted: May 29, 2017



SAN BERNARDINO – Three people were injured in a San Bernardino house fire on Monday morning. At around 8:04 a.m. **San Bernardino County Fire Department** firefighters were dispatched to the home near 7th and Meridian in the City of San Bernardino. While en route, dispatchers received additional information stating that there were multiple parties suffering from burns at the home in the 700 block of North Lassen.

The first Medic Engine arrived at the scene approximately 5 minutes from the call to find the two-story home with fire and heavy smoke showing. They also located three residents who were able to evacuate the home, who were suffering from burns. “Crews worked diligently on both patient care and mounted an aggressive interior attack to suppress the fire and search for additional victims,” said San Bernardino County Fire spokesman Eric Sherwin. “Crews on the roof worked on vertical ventilation to help improve visibility and to evacuate smoke. No additional victims were found in the search.”

The three adult patients who suffered significant burns were rushed over to the waiting ambulances to be transported to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. The firefighters were able to knock the fire down in around 20 minutes. Heavy damage to the patio and both floors of the home were reported. Rialto & Colton FD assisted in the firefight. A total of (5) Medic Engines, (1) Truck Company, (2) Battalion Chiefs, (1) Fire Investigator and (2) AMR Ambulances responded to the fire. Fire cause and origin is under investigation by San Bernardino County Fire Office of the Fire Marshal. Damage estimates to the home and contents are approximate \$150,000.

<https://247headline.com/three-people-sustain-significant-burn-injuries-in-san-bernardino-house-fire/>

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## Firefighters Respond to Fire at Victorville Business

24/7 Headline News

Posted: May 29, 2017



VICTORVILLE – A Victorville commercial structure fire caused major damage but no injuries on Monday night.

The fire that was reported shortly after 8:00 p.m. at a vacant business located at 15663 Village Drive near Tawny Ridge Drive next door to the Martinez Auto Glass, showed dark smoke from over 2-3 miles away in each direction. Flames could be seen shooting vertically from the rooftop of the single-story structure from blocks away, from both north and south of the location.

When firefighters arrived with the 2nd alarm response they found the structure well involved in flames. The firefighters immediately began fighting the fire using an offensive attack, which was used until the primary search came up clear of any occupants and conditions prevented them from continuing to do so. Soon after the attack switched to a defensive attack, which was used to keep the fire from spreading while fighting the fire.

**San Bernardino County Fire** Captain Jeremy Kern said that both the primary and secondary search came up clear with no victims inside the commercial structure. The fire was knocked down by around 8:45 p.m., but extensive mop up was necessary to ensure that the fire would not spark back up. “At the height of the incident seven, Engines, three Truck Companies, one Medic Squad, four Chief Officers, one Fire Investigator and one Heavy Rescue responded to the 2-Alarm Fire,” San Bernardino County Fire Department Captain Jeremy Kern said.

Southern California Edison (SCE) quickly responded to secure utilities. No injuries were reported as a result of the fire. The cause of the fire and estimated damages are unknown at this time. Information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://247headline.com/firefighters-respond-to-fire-at-victorville-automotive-glass-business/>

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## 2nd Alarm Fire Destroys Vacant Building in Victorville

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 29, 2017



Huge flames and heavy smoke could be seen billowing from the building as Fire Captain Jeremy Kern looks on. (Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) Multiple fire stations responded to fight a two-alarm commercial building fire in Victorville Monday evening.

At about 8:00 p.m. dispatch received reports of a fire at an auto & glass part store in the 15600 block of Village Drive in Victorville.

“Initially, we dispatched a first-alarm commercial response. With that, it brought 2 trucks, 3 engine companies a Battalion Chief, as well as a squad,” stated Captain Jeremy Kern with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

Kern said fire stations from surrounding cities including Hesperia and Apple Valley also responded to provide additional assistance.

Upon arrival, Firefighters found an abandoned commercial building with heavy smoke and flames showing through the roof, adjacent to Martinez New & Used Auto Glass.

“Truck crews immediately went to roof to open up holes to assist with any search & rescue of potential victims within the structure. As well as assist the interior crews with fire attack,” said Kern.

“Our fire crews were initially encountering very heavy smoke conditions with zero visibility and high heat,” stated Kern.

Due to the amount of smoke and fire, the incident commander made the decision to remove firefighters from the roof and the inside of the structure. “We transitioned to an offensive operation,” stated Kern.

It took firefighters approximately 1 hour to knock down the fire.

No injuries were reported by civilians or firefighters. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

<http://www.vvng.com/2nd-alarm-fire-destroys-vacant-building-victorville-video/>

## Fire at Victorville building causes heavy damage

Beatriz Valenzuela, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: May 30, 2017, 8:23 AM



Fire caused significant damage to a vacant commercial building on the 15600 block of Village Drive in Victorville on Monday, May 29, 2017. (Google Maps)

VICTORVILLE >> **San Bernardino County fire** officials are investigating a fire that significantly damaged a Victorville commercial building Monday night.

Crews were called to the 15600 block of Village Lane just after 8 p.m. for a fire at a vacant business, according to a fire department Facebook post.

Heavy smoke and flames could be seen coming from the building, and a second alarm “was quickly struck to bring additional manpower and apparatus to the scene,” the post read.

“With interior crews encountering heavy smoke and fire conditions ,the decision was made to go from an ‘offensive’ to a ‘defensive’ strategy, utilizing large master streams from the exterior of the commercial building,” the post said.

Despite the heavy smoke and flames, firefighters were able to keep the fire from spreading to nearby businesses, officials said.

Crews were able to knock down the blaze after 45 minutes, according to authorities.

At the height of the firefighting effort, seven engines, three truck companies, one medic squad, four chief officers, a fire investigator and one heavy rescue unit were on the scene of the fire, officials said.

No injuries were reported. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20170530/fire-at-victorville-building-causes-heavy-damage>

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## **Firefighters battle early Monday morning house fire, one person transported**

**Jose Quintero, Hesperia Star**

Posted: May 29, 2017, 9:06 AM

ADELANTO — One person was transported to a local hospital with unknown injuries suffered in a structure fire early Monday morning.

**San Bernardino County Fire Department** personnel responded to the blaze at 3:01 a.m. in the 9800 block of Forest Court in Adelanto and found a single-story home fully involved in flames.

There were also “several” vehicles fully involved in flames as well, according to County Fire spokesman Ryan Vaccaro.

Two paramedic squads were requested to the scene for an arm injury and a person who passed out. Vaccaro was unsure which person was transported to Victor Valley Global Medical Center.

County Fire responded with four engines, a ladder truck, battalion chief and fire investigator.

Firefighters were able to get a full knock down at approximately 3:44 a.m.

The home and vehicles were ruled complete losses and no other structures were damaged, Vaccaro said.

<http://www.hesperia.com/news/20170529/firefighters-battle-early-monday-morning-house-fire-one-person-transported>

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## Adelanto Family of Five Loses Everything in House Fire

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 29, 2017



Five members of a family, ranging from ages 6 months to 54 years old were displaced after a fire tore through their Adelanto home. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

ADELANTO, Calif. -- A home was completely destroyed when a fire ripped through a residence early Monday morning, destroying everything the Ross family owned.

The fire was reported at approximately 3:00 a.m. on May 29, 2017, on the 9800 block of Forest Court.

When the San Bernardino County Fire Department firefighters arrived they located the home fully engulfed, including several cars.

A family of five, which includes a 6-month-old baby, were sleeping but were able to wake up in time to escape. They were also able to rescue their pet dog safely.

One person was transported to a local hospital for smoke inhalation. Medical aid was requested to treat another person at the scene who passed out from the stress.

Whitney Ross said she is very thankful her family is safe, but says they are in need of essential items they lost in the fire including food, clothing, hygiene products, and pet food.

“Everything they owned from home, food, clothing, furniture and cars were destroyed. Right now anything would help, anything,” said Ross.

An investigator was dispatched to the scene to conduct a thorough investigation into the cause of the fire.

For those wishing to help the family, they have provided their clothing and shoe sizes below.

The baby needs 6-9 months and 9-12 months clothing, diapers, wipes, etc. There's 3 adults males and 1 adult female. Men's shirts (Large & X-Large), men's pants (L-XL size 36 and 32), men's shoes (size 11.5), women's shirts (XL), and women's pants (XL-2XL, size 18) and women's shoes (size 10.)

For those wishing to help financially, the family has establish a Go Fund Me account. (<https://www.gofundme.com/ross-family-house-burnt-down>)

For those wishing to contact the family directly, Whitney Ross has provided her cell phone number (760) 498-4621 and said a text message would be preferred.

<http://www.vvng.com/adelanto-family-five-loses-everything-house-fire/>

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## Fire Destroys Adelanto Home; Residents Left Without Basic Needs

Christie Martin, 24/7 Headline News

Posted: May 29, 2017



ADELANTO – A family was left homeless after a fire tore through their Adelanto home early Monday morning. At around 3:00 a.m. the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** was dispatched to a home located at 9882 Forest Court for the report of a garage fire. Four adults and one child, plus a child who was visiting the home overnight, were inside the home at the time of the fire. Ricky Ross Sr., 54, Donald Ross, 29, Ricky Ross Jr, 28, Ricky Jr.’s fiance Linda, 25, and Ricky Jr. and Linda’s 6-month-old baby girl, Jade all live in the home and were at the home when the home burst into flames. Ricky Sr.’s granddaughter, Tatiana, 3, was also sleeping over at the time of the fire.

“My little brother Ricky Jr was the only one up playing his Nintendo Switch and playing music loud when he smelled smoke,” said Whitney Ross, who lives nearby. “He turned his tv down and heard the crackling noise, then he heard the smoke alarm going off. He ran to the front window and saw flames coming from the garage. He ran in our other brother, Donald’s room to tell him the house was on fire and to get everyone out. They ran to the garage open door and flames came rushing in. They yelled at everyone and grabbed everyone and ran out the front door.”

San Bernardino County Fire Department spokesman Eric Sherwin said that when firefighters arrived, the home was fully involved. The fire was spreading to the to the home on the west, which was evacuated and firefighters began fighting the fire which had already spread to three vehicles in front of the home. Neighbors in the area reported a sound similar to gunshots as the fire grew. The explosive sounds were later believed to be a result of hydraulics that were stored inside of the garage. The fire took approximately 35 minutes to knock down. The Red Cross was requested to the scene to assist the family. In shock about the fire and losing his home, Ricky Sr. who is a stroke survivor, was transported to a local hospital as a precaution.

The family is grateful to be alive but is now left with nothing besides for the clothing on their back. Everything that was inside of home including food, clothing, furniture, and their vehicles were destroyed by the fire. The family is in need baby girl clothing in size 9-12 months, socks, blankets, size 2-3 diapers, wipes, bottles, and Enfamil Gentlease baby formula. The men in the home are in need men's size 32 and 36 pants, L/XL shirts and shoes and socks in size 10.5 and 11.5. Linda is in need women's size 18 pants and XL shirts, and size 10 shoes. The whole family needs toothbrushes, toothpaste, and body washes. Anyone wanting to assist the family with any of their needs can comment on the post or article, and Whitney Ross will be made aware of the offer.

Whitney Ross has also started a Go Fund Me account to assist her family in getting back on their feet. She said that right now they are staying with her, but soon will be looking for another temporary place to stay.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation and the estimated damage is still unknown.

<https://247headline.com/fire-destroys-adelanto-home-residents-left-without-basic-needs/>

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## **County's \$1.5M Inmate Fire Crew Program currently unfunded**

*The San Bernardino County Fire Protection District's recommended spending plan for fiscal year 2017-18 doesn't carve out money at the moment to bankroll the four-year old program.*

**Shea Johnson, Daily Press**

Posted: May 26, 2017, 10:06 AM



San Bernardino County inmate workers clean up a 66-acre illegal dump site near Interstate 15 and Dale Evans Parkway in Apple Valley in March 2016. The San Bernardino County Fire Protection District's recommended spending plan for fiscal year 2017-18 doesn't carve out money at the moment to bankroll the four-year old Inmate Fire Crew Program. [James Quigg, Daily Press]

**SAN BERNARDINO** — Two county supervisors urged officials this week to not let the Inmate Fire Crew Program go unfunded, calling upon them to identify the \$1.5 million needed to run operations for this coming fiscal year and avert the risk of discontinuation.

The **San Bernardino County Fire Protection District's** recommended spending plan for fiscal year 2017-18 doesn't carve out money at the moment to bankroll the four-year old program.

County staff will present the board with funding options to consider in the near future, county spokesman David Wert said, and the board will decide how to allocate resources for the coming fiscal year.

The options will be presented as early as July, according to a county staff report, which noted:

“Should the Inmate Fire Crew Program not receive funding at that time, SBCFPD will discontinue the Program ...”

Since its inception in June 2013, the program has afforded low-level and low-risk inmates, who might otherwise have been eligible for the state’s inmate fire crew program, the opportunity to respond to fires and to perform community beautification projects.

Supervisors Chairman Robert Lovingood on Tuesday described addressing the present budget concern as having “a great level of importance,” insisting that crews had been invaluable to the county and worked a combined 85,000 man-hours over the scope of two contracts.

“These crews spent nine days on the horrific Blue Cut Fire and I can share with you, not only were they there protecting property, residents,” he said, “they also worked with the paramedic teams, allowed them to break and to (refresh) and to come back.”

“I believe if you look at our districts (the 1st, 2nd and 3rd),” he continued, “we have the greatest exposure to these fires, and what (inmate crews) bring in value can’t be (overstated).”

In addition to acting as a cost-saving mechanism for the county and boosting community clean-up projects — Lovingood said crews have collected 300 tons of garbage — the program also works as a supplement for fire engines.

Sixteen inmates can replace five engine companies on any fires that are contained, according to County Fire Deputy Chief John Chamberlain, then allowing County Fire crews to return to the streets and respond to some 130,000 yearly calls they receive.

“This is an extremely valuable program,” Chamberlain said. “I was an incident commander on Blue Cut and I can tell you without question, this definitely saved lives and property across the county.”

He added that inmate crews had responded to 783 requests for service as of calendar year 2016, not including outside calls where County Fire provided aid to adjoining jurisdictions.

Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales described herself as a long-time supporter of the program and rallied officials to “let’s see what we can do to mitigate the gap here.”

“It has been a pleasure to go out there and see these young men feel a source of pride as they get into their gear and feel useful,” Gonzales said. “We need that. We need our men to feel they have a purpose, that they have an ability to contribute.”

Lovingood suggested, too, that recidivism rates were likely lower than average among program participants.

“I believe many of these folks are, you know, what I refer to at my age as kids who have made stupid mistakes,” he said. “They’re not hardened people, they’re not at risk. And they want to be out, they want to see this as their contribution back for their mistakes. They’re looking for an opportunity at some point to change their paths, I believe.”

The board Tuesday approved an amended deal that will see the Sheriff's Department reimburse County Fire up to \$100,000 for equipment and tool expenses connected to the program. Of course, if the program stays unfunded, this agreement will be terminated.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170526/countys-15m-inmate-fire-crew-program-currently-unfunded>

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## **SB County Fire Hopes for Reintroduction of Life Saving Measure for Children**

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 27, 2017



(screen capture from KCAL9 News Video)

Intubation, a life-saving intervention where a breathing tube is inserted into a patient's airway, has been the gold standard for treatment of airway emergencies for years. Late last year, for patients under 15 years of age, this procedure was deleted from treatment protocols for paramedics operating within SanBernardino, Inyo and Mono Counties.

Why is this a concern?

San Bernardino is geographically the largest county in the lower 48 states, covering 20,105 square miles, while Inyo and Mono counties together cover nearly 15,000 more. In remote areas, patients may be located up to an hour or so from the nearest emergency department. In the types of cases where intubation is indicated, failure to secure a patient's airway may lead to brain injury within minutes, especially for children.

Removing this skill from a paramedic's skill set reduces options for securing a child's airway when it is needed most. There are other options for airway management, and they can be effective, but intubation provides the most direct route for getting oxygen into a patient's lungs.

Basic airway procedures often provide diminishing returns on the long transports experienced this part of the state, even when performed expertly.

Meanwhile, intubation remains in place as an approved procedure for adult patients.

Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency or #ICEMA, the governing body for EMTs and paramedics across the three counties, is concerned that intubation, when performed incorrectly, can cause damage; this is what led to removing the protocol. However, paramedics are highly trained in this procedure. In fact, the

learning of, and continued training on, the skill of intubation is a major hallmark of a paramedic's education and career.

New equipment and technology now available to paramedics can reduce some of the risk of pediatric intubation. #Local935 supports the reintroduction of this skill for our youngest, most vulnerable patients.

<http://www.vvng.com/sb-county-fire-hopes-reintroduction-life-saving-measure-kids/>

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## Car Becomes Airborne and Crashes Into Brick Wall

VVNG Staff

Posted: May 27, 2017



Hesperia deputies investigating the crash.(Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) A driver and two passengers were transported to a hospital after their vehicle became airborne and crashed into a brick wall.

Just before 9:00 p.m., emergency personal responded to an accident on Mariposa Road and Oak Ridge Drive and located a single vehicle with major damage.

All occupants of the vehicle were initially reported to be trapped. However, Battalion Chief Bill Mahan with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** said when they arrived on scene no extrication was needed.

The red 2010 Mazda 3 became airborne when the driver, who was traveling southbound on Mariposa Road, lost control and veered into opposing lanes of traffic and down an embankment.

The speed of the vehicle forced it back out of the embankment causing it to become airborne, launching it over Oak Ridge Road before landing upside down on top of the brick wall.

The patients were transported to various hospitals with non-life threatening injuries.

Both directions of Mariposa Road were temporarily closed.

The cause of the accident remains under investigation by the Hesperia Sheriff's Station.

<http://www.vvng.com/car-becomes-airborne-crashes-brick-wall/>

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## Highland woman dies in rollover on 10/215 interchange in San Bernardino

Ali Tadayon, Press Enterprise

Posted: May 28, 2017, 9:03 AM

A Highland woman died early Sunday, May 28, in a single-vehicle crash on the transfer road from Interstate 10 West to the 215.

Driver Nallely Rocha Reyes, 22, was pronounced dead at 12:58 a.m., less than a half-hour after the crash was reported, according to a San Bernardino County Coroner's Office news release. A passenger was also hospitalized, but the news release didn't say what their condition was.

California Highway Patrol officers and **San Bernardino County Fire Department** paramedics responded to the rollover at 12:34 a.m., the news release said. The car had rolled over onto the embankment behind 1946 South E Street.

Reyes was pronounced dead at the scene.

<http://www.pe.com/2017/05/28/highland-woman-dies-in-rollover-on-10215-interchange-in-san-bernardino/>

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## 1-year-old nearly drowns in swimming pool in Victorville

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 28, 2017



A 1-year-old toddler was airlifted after near drowning in Victorville. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) A 1-year-old child is battling life-threatening injuries after nearly drowning Sunday afternoon.

At 1:22 p.m., the family of the toddler called 911 stating the one-year-old male was not breathing after being found in their pool, said **San Bernardino County Fire Department** spokesman Ryan Vaccaro.

When first responders arrived to the home of the 14300 block of Hondo Drive the toddler was said to be unresponsive with shallow breaths.

The toddler was transported by ground ambulance to Victor Valley Global Medical Center where an airship was requested to airlift the child to Loma Linda University Medical Center.

This is a developing story. Information will be updated as it becomes available.

<http://www.vvng.com/1-year-old-nearly-drowns-swimming-pool-victorville/>

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## **“Every 15 Minutes” – A drunk driving lesson for Rim High students**

Rhea-Frances Tetley, Alpenhorn News

Posted: May 28, 2017



A CHP officer administers a sobriety test to an alleged drunken teen driver during a prom night fatal accident simulation at Rim High School. (Photo by Rhea-Frances Tetley)

The “Every 15 Minutes” program at Rim High School is designed to enable junior and senior high school students the opportunity to experience, in the most realistic way possible, the potential consequences from drinking and driving. This was presented last Thursday and Friday, just before the school’s prom, which was held on Saturday night. It is designed to make them think at least twice before drinking and driving.

The two-day event begins with the first day recreating an accident with the emergency responders arriving and trying to save lives. The second day is the memorial service for those who died, in this case four of the six accident victims.

The simulated real-life scenario used actual Rim students involved in a drunk driving accident after leaving the prom, with three students perishing in the first car, as well as one of their teachers dying in the second car. The simulation occurred at 10:35 a.m. on Thursday and caused some delay on Highway 18, as the emergency responders arrived. The two cars were placed, smashed, in the high school’s parking lot, one upside down, with the students’ bodies falling out of it, with lots of fake blood splattered everywhere.

In the second car were the photography teacher and her husband. She had been hit head-on by the car driven by a drunk student with the fire department required to cut them out of the car with the Jaws of Life and taking the teacher and her husband off in an ambulance, to the hospital, where in the scenario, she dies.

The California Highway officers arrived with sirens and red lights and gave the student driver a drunk driving test. When he fails, because they all had been drinking, after being forced to identify the bloodied bodies of

his girlfriend and the other couple who were in the car with him, he is placed in handcuffs, arrested for drunk driving and driven away in a CHP unit. Then the coroner arrives and the Grim Reaper removes his friends from the smashed up cars.

During the simulation units from the CHP, **County Fire** and Cal Fire arrive, as well as the Sheriff's helicopter, to play a part in the scenario. Some students in the crowd were moved to tears by the realistic re-enactment.

On Friday at 11:30 a.m. was the memorial service for those who died, with the deceased students' actual parents giving eulogies and obituaries for their kids and telling the assembly the impact their death will have on the family. These parents felt a real loss, while having to reflect and write the obits. Rim parent Ruben Soto told *The Alpenhorn News*, "My son was one of the students removed from class by the grim reaper. It has been a tough week for my wife and I as we had to write his obituary and a final goodbye letter to him."

This entire simulation is very moving, which challenges students to think about the impact that drinking and driving may have on family, friends and others. It imparts on them the responsibility of making mature decisions and seeing the impact their decisions may have on their futures.

This educational simulation occurs about every other year, with the approximately \$10,000 price tag paid for through a grant from the CHP. Noting that the latest statistics on drunk driving show that a teen dies only once every 33 minutes instead of every 15 minutes, CHP Public Affairs Officer Juan Quintero told *The Alpenhorn News*, "We believe it shows that education is making a difference."

<http://alpenhornnews.com/every-minutes-a-drunk-driving-lesson-for-rim-high-students-p8142-155.htm>

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## Brush Fire in Victorville Threatened Several Homes

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 29, 2017



The fire is suspected to have started in the alley and quickly spread. (Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News)



(Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) A brush fire that threatened several homes was quickly extinguished by San Bernardino County Firefighters Monday afternoon.

At approximately 2:42 p.m. **San Bernardino County Fire** responded to the 14800 block of La Brisa Road reference a brush fire in an alley.

When firefighters arrived they located approximately a half-acre of dry brush on fire in an empty lot surrounded by homes.

According to Public Information Officer Eric Sherwin, the field contained “light fuels” with a rapid rate of spread. “Several homes in the area were threatened,” stated Sherwin.

Jennah Bayb who also lives on the street jumped her neighbor’s fence to rescue their pets. “They weren’t home and I saw the fire getting closer to their backyard so I decided to rescue their pets,” stated Jennah. “I grabbed their two dogs and a couple of bunnies to keep them safe.”

Another neighbor grabbed a water hose and started helping to extinguish the fire.

By 2:59 p.m. the forward rate of spread of the fire was stopped. It took firefighters an additional 45 minutes to mop up the area.

No injuries or evacuations were reported as a result of the fire.

A total of four engines and a Battalion Chief responded to the incident.

A San Bernardino County Fire Investigator remained at the scene to determine the cause of the fire.

<http://www.vvng.com/brush-fire-victorville-threatened-several-homes/>

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## Firefighters Extinguish Homeless Encampment Fire in Victorville

Victor Valley News Group

Posted: May 29, 2017



A San Bernardino County Firefighter prepares to put water on the flames. (Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News)



(Hugo C. Valdez, Victor Valley News)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) – **San Bernardino County Fire** responded to a first alarm vegetation fire in the Mojave Riverbed Monday afternoon.

At 12:56 p.m. Dispatch received reports of a fire in the area of D Street and Stoddard Wells Road in Victorville.

When firefighters arrived they located a fire burning at a homeless encampment along the railroad tracks near 6th Street.

Heavy smoke and flames could be seen coming from a large metal container that quickly spread to a tree and nearby debris.

Firefighters acted quickly and managed to contain the fire within several minutes.

“Thankfully we were able to get on top of it before it spread and did some damage,” stated Public Information Officer Eric Sherwin.

The response from San Bernardino County Fire included 1 water tender, 2 engines, and a battalion chief.

No injuries were reported by civilians or firefighters. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

<http://www.vvng.com/firefighters-extinguish-homeless-encampment-fire-victorville/>

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## **Rescued hiker dies**

**Highland News**

Posted: May 30, 2017, 7:13 AM

On Monday, 5/28/2017, at approximately noon, Air Rescue 306 received a call from **SB Co Fire** dispatch regarding a report of an injured hiker along the San Bernardino Peak Trail. Due to the mountainous terrain and the known altitude of San Bernardino Peak, 40King3 assisted in the search for the injured 45-year-old hiker. While on route to the location, Fire Dispatch updated the call stating that the victim was unresponsive and bystanders were performing CPR. Once on scene, the crew of 40King3 located the victim approximately 1/8-mile South/West of San Bernardino Peak. The victim was with 2 others who appeared to be performing CPR.

Air Rescue 306 arrived on scene approximately 3 minutes after 40King3 and immediately performed a hoist to reach the victim. Deputy Hess lowered Deputies Stine and Yee to the victim, who determined the victim needed immediate transportation to LLUMC for advanced life support care. The victim, Stine, and Yee were hoisted back to AR306 and the victim was flown and released to Loma Linda University Medical Center, where he was pronounced deceased.

The area in which the victim was located was at the 10,200 foot level of San Bernardino Peak. The length of the hoist was approximately 85 ft.

[http://www.highlandnews.net/news/public\\_safety/rescued-hiker-dies/article\\_1dcd1742-4542-11e7-b2c2-2bc802126f40.html](http://www.highlandnews.net/news/public_safety/rescued-hiker-dies/article_1dcd1742-4542-11e7-b2c2-2bc802126f40.html)

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## Sunday Fire Destroys a North Joshua Tree Home

Z107.7 News

Posted: May 30, 2017



A home in North Joshua Tree is a total loss following an early morning fire Sunday. Firefighters from Joshua Tree, Yucca Valley, Yucca Mesa, and Twentynine Palms were called to the fire in the 64800 block of Broadway at 4:15 a.m. **County Fire** Battalion Chief Mike Snow said the two-story house was fully involved with flames and the blaze was threatening two other structures. Given the fire's intensity, and the building's potential for collapse, Snow said all firefighting efforts were restricted to the exterior of the house, which was believed to be unoccupied. One firefighter suffered a minor injury due to electrical shock and was taken to Hi-Desert Medical Center and later released. The fire was under control in about an hour. The cause of the blaze is under investigation.

<http://z1077fm.com/fire-destroys-home-in-north-joshua-tree-early-sunday-morning/>